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Monitoring, assessment and reporting

Monitoring, assessment and reporting on progress towards implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030, including the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

Since its inception, the United Nations Forum on Forests has invited members to submit voluntary national reports on progress made towards the implementation of sustainable forest management. The present report includes a proposal for the new cycle and format for voluntary national reporting on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030, including the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions, and an update on continuing work on developing a set of global forest indicators and possible measures to further streamline and harmonize reporting, reduce reporting burdens and synchronize data collection with relevant member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, criteria and indicators processes and other existing forest data collection mechanisms.

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I. Introduction

1. Since its inception, the United Nations Forum on Forests has invited members to submit voluntary national reports on progress made towards the implementation of sustainable forest management. From 2002 to 2005, the focus was on tracking progress in the implementation of the proposals for action made by the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests. Following the adoption of the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests (later renamed as the United Nations forest instrument) in 2007, the focus shifted to progress made in implementing the instrument and achieving the global objectives on forests.

2. In 2015, the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2015/33 on the international arrangement on forests beyond 2015, set out actions relating to monitoring, assessment and reporting, including a request to the Forum secretariat to propose a new cycle and format for voluntary national reporting to the Forum, for the Forum's consideration at its twelfth session. The Forum requested that the cycle and format should be developed in consultation with members, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members, and criteria and indicators processes.

3. In 2017, the Forum, at its special session held on 20 January, adopted the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 and a quadrennial programme of work for the period 2017-2020. The focus of reporting at future sessions of the Forum will therefore be on progress towards the implementation of the strategic plan, including the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions.

4. The strategic plan builds on the vision set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a road map to guide forest-related contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other international forest-related instruments, processes, commitments and goals. At its heart are the six global forest goals and 26 associated targets to be achieved by 2030. The goals and targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

5. In accordance with paragraph 69 of the strategic plan, the Forum will establish a cycle and format for voluntary national reporting that takes into account the cycle of the global forest resources assessments conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the cycle for reviewing the Sustainable Development Goals at the global level by the high-level political forum on sustainable development, in order to reduce reporting burdens. In addition, members may, on a voluntary basis, determine their voluntary national contributions to achieving these goals and targets and communicate progress in that regard to the Forum at regular intervals to be determined by the Forum.

II. National reporting to the Forum

6. Since 2009, national reporting to the Forum has tracked progress towards the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument and the achievement of its global objectives on forests. From 2009 to 2015, 180 country reports (from

100 countries) were submitted in the four reporting cycles. There was also a steady increase in the number of reports received in each cycle, from 21 reports received in 2009 to 81 in 2015.[1]

7. Those reports provided the basis for the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument and towards the achievement of the global objectives on forests, which were mainly qualitative and action-oriented. The information provided was supplemented by quantitative data from the global forest resources assessments and the International Tropical Timber Organization and other relevant information from international databases.

8. At its ninth session, the Forum called for the development of a standard reporting format for voluntary national reports. The secretariat therefore developed a new streamlined reporting format, which was used in the reporting cycle for the tenth session.

9. That format was developed in consultation with members of the Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting, established under the Collaborative Partnership. In addition, the Forum secretariat and FAO conducted extensive consultations with government representatives and international experts through five regional capacity-building workshops.

10. The format was further developed in preparation for the eleventh session of the Forum, pursuant to resolution 10/1, by which the secretariat was requested to further revise and streamline the template. The updated format consisted of two parts: the first pertained to progress in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument, including the achievement of the global objectives on forests, while the second dealt with the contribution of forests and sustainable forest management to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

III. Format for voluntary national reporting on the implementation of the strategic plan, including the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions

11. In accordance with the strategic plan, the Forum will assess progress in implementing the strategic plan in the context of its midterm and final reviews of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, to be held in 2024 and 2030. The assessment will be based on internationally agreed indicators, including relevant Sustainable Development Goal indicators, that are relevant to the global forest goals and targets.

12. Moreover, the assessment will take into account voluntary national reporting on the implementation of the strategic plan, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions and the results of the most recent global forest resources assessment of FAO, together with input from the Collaborative Partnership and its member organizations and other partners inside and outside the

[1] Available from www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/national-reports/index.html.

United Nations system, including regional and subregional organizations and relevant stakeholders.

13. The proposed format for reporting (see annex I) takes into account suggestions and comments received during an expert meeting on reporting to the Forum that was held in Brasilia from 7 to 10 February 2017. It also builds on subsequent input received from members, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership and major groups on the draft proposal that was circulated by e-mail on 17 February.

14. The proposed format is structured around the six global forest goals and 26 associated targets. Included for the six goals are standard questions that provide an opportunity for members to report on progress in their achievement.

15. The assessment of progress towards the achievement of goals 1 to 3 will be, to a large extent, supplemented by quantitative data derived from global and regional sources and databases, including the global forest resource assessments, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership, criteria and indicators processes and the 2030 Agenda process. The sections relating to goals 4 to 6 contain supplementary questions based on the template used for reporting to the Forum at its eleventh session.

16. This qualitative information, supplemented by quantitative data from other sources, will provide flexibility to countries to report on their action to achieve the goals and targets and at the same time make it possible to obtain a meaningful picture of global progress.

17. In developing the proposed format, due consideration was given to the need to reduce reporting burdens and the fact that the relevance of the goals and targets may vary according to national circumstances.

IV. Cycle for voluntary national reporting

18. From 2009 to 2015, the Forum discussed the progress towards the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument and its global objectives on forests at each session, held every two years. Consequently, reporting was also done on a two-yearly basis. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/33, however, the frequency of the Forum's sessions has changed: from 2017 to 2030 the Forum will meet yearly.

19. Odd-year sessions of the Forum, beginning with the current session, will be dedicated to discussions on implementation and technical advice, including an assessment of the progress in the implementation of the Forum's resolutions and decisions, the United Nations forest instrument and the strategic plan.

20. In accordance with the strategic plan, the new cycle for voluntary national reporting will take into account the cycle of the FAO global forest resources assessments and the Sustainable Development Goals review being conducted under the auspices of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

21. FAO conducts its global forest resources assessments every five years, so as to take a consistent approach in assessing how the world's forests are changing over time. The assessments are based on two primary sources of data: country reports

prepared by national correspondents and remote sensing conducted by FAO together with national focal points and regional partners. The scope of the assessments has evolved since the first assessment was published in 1948. Discussions on the scope of the assessment to be conducted in 2020 are under way.

22. The high-level political forum on sustainable development is facilitating an in-depth review of progress made in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals over the course of a four-year cycle, with means of implementation, including with regard to Goal 17, reviewed annually (see General Assembly resolution 70/299). Meetings of the forum are informed by annual progress reports on the Goals and a quadrennial global sustainable development report.

23. During the above-mentioned expert meeting on reporting to the Forum, participants suggested several options for reporting cycles, including an option to extend the cycle from two to five years. They also proposed that the cycle could be flexible and adjusted in the light of relevant developments. There was general agreement that annual reporting was not feasible.

24. Accordingly, the Forum may wish to consider 2019 as a starting point for the submission of voluntary national reports. The subsequent round of reporting could be in 2021, to benefit from data from the forest resources assessment to be published in 2020 and to enable input to the technical session of the Forum in 2021. Thereafter, the two-year cycle of voluntary reporting could be further adjusted, if necessary.

25. Such an approach would enable members to familiarize relevant national stakeholders with the strategic plan and its global forest goals and targets and provide the time necessary for countries to initiate and report on activities and action in support of the achievement of the goals and targets. By 2019, work on global indicators should also be completed and the first reporting cycle would benefit from a more robust monitoring framework.

V. Progress in the development of global forest indicators

26. In March 2016, on the basis of the recommendations of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, the Statistical Commission, at its forty-seventh session, agreed on a global indicator framework for the Goals and associated targets, which included 230 global indicators. The indicators are intended to be used to follow up on and review progress at the global level towards the achievement of the Goals. Included therein are several indicators that pertain specifically to forests (for targets 2.3, 6.6, 15.1, 15.2 and 15.b).

27. The Group's work and subsequent discussions on forest-related indicators, including work on a global core set of forest indicators, have been supported by an informal inter-agency process. The process is coordinated by FAO and involves the Forum secretariat, other Collaborative Partnership members and criteria and indicators processes. Work is being undertaken to support the development of indicators for target 15.2, on the implementation of sustainable forest management, and other forest-related indicators.

28. In November 2016, an organization-led initiative on global forest indicators, in support of the Forum, was held by the Collaborative Partnership to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the strategic plan. Participants considered a global core set of forest-related indicators that covered sustainable forest management and progress towards the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets, in addition to possible indicators for what were then draft targets for the strategic plan. Such a global set of indicators could be instrumental in streamlining reporting on forests and reducing the reporting burden.

29. There were 20 indicators classified as "green" (concept and data availability are broadly satisfactory) or "yellow" (more work is needed on concepts, definitions or methodology). Some of the indicators directly correspond to the global forest goals and associated targets and could supplement information submitted in national reports. There was general agreement that the global set of indicators should be aligned with the global forest goals and targets. Among the key outcomes of the initiative was the establishment of a task force on a global set of indictors, under the Collaborative Partnership, which would work further on indicators classified as "yellow".

30. In February 2017, participants in the expert meeting in Brasilia held an initial exchange of views on a preliminary list of potential indicators for the global forest goals and targets. This preliminary list (see annex II) will enable data to be obtained that could be used to supplement the information provided in national reports. It was noted that the indicators should be based on available data, clearly related to the global forest goals and targets and streamlined to the extent possible.

31. The process of developing a core set of global forest indicators is continuing, with the concepts, definitions or methodology in relation to several indicators needing further work. The Forum secretariat is actively engaged in activities leading to the finalization of the indicators. In this regard, the first meeting of the above-mentioned task force is scheduled to be held in March 2017 in Rome. It is expected that the work on the indicators will be completed by 2019.

VI. Further measures to better synchronize data collection and reduce reporting burdens

32. Cooperation and efforts to synchronize reporting on forests are continuing, with many agencies sharing data so that countries do not need to report the same figures more than once. Nevertheless, opportunities still exist to further reduce the reporting burden by further synchronizing reporting so as to avoid overlap in reporting to different organizations or processes and to facilitate information storage and retrieval.

33. The Forum secretariat continues to work to improve synchronization, reduce overlap in data collection and minimize the reporting burden. The proposed reporting format consolidates areas of overlap and seeks information that is not currently provided to other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership or that is unavailable in other international databases.

34. Collaboration with member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership, criteria and indicators processes and other entities gathering data on forests will

remain a crucial area of work. The annual joint forest sector questionnaire and the collaborative forest resources questionnaire provide good examples of joint data collection. The Forum secretariat works closely with all relevant partners to streamline national forest-related reporting and in particular with FAO to move to an improved platform for and flexibility in the submission of national data.

35. In that regard, the newly established task force on a core set of indicators will provide a platform for work to further reduce the reporting burden and increase the consistency, comparability and compatibility of the data collected by streamlining reporting requests, synchronizing reporting cycles and harmonizing terms, definitions and data collection methods.

Annex I

Proposed guidelines and format for reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions

1. The format is structured around the newly adopted global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030 and builds on the format previously used for reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests at its eleventh session. It is largely narrative, reflecting the qualitative nature of most of the targets.

2. Members are asked to submit only information that is not currently provided to the member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests or that is unavailable in other international databases. To the extent possible, the information submitted will be supplemented with quantitative data, among other things, from the following international data providers:

(a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), forest resources assessments/collaborative forest resources questionnaires, Forest Europe, Economic Commission for Europe, International Tropical Timber Organization, Montreal Process and Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa;

(b) Joint forest sector questionnaire (FAO, International Tropical Timber Organization, Economic Commission for Europe, Eurostat);

(c) Report on the state of the world's forests produced by FAO;

(d) Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

(e) Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(f) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;

(g) Other data sources, including the Forest Stewardship Council and the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.

3. Members are kindly requested:

(a) To submit their completed national reports electronically (in Microsoft Word format) in English, French or Spanish to unff@un.org by [*date to be determined*], bearing in mind that early submissions will greatly facilitate the secretariat's preparation of the analytical consolidated report of the Secretary-General to the Forum at its [*to be determined*] session;

(b) To submit, in a separate electronic file, a scanned version of the official signed letter conveying their submission from the respective ministry, or with a note verbale from their permanent mission to the United Nations in New York;

(c) To submit any graphical elements included in the national report as separate electronic files;

(d) To provide brief descriptions (of up to 250 words) as part of their answers, so as to provide context and background;

(e) In view of the cross-cutting nature of issues relating to forests and sustainable forest management, to consult experts from relevant national ministries, such as those of the environment, economic development, finance and agriculture, in completing the reporting format and to consult the national focal points for the forest resources assessments, the Rio Conventions, other member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and criteria and indicators processes and relevant stakeholders, where applicable.

4. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.

5. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the FAO and forest resources assessment terms and definitions.

6. Please indicate the source of all information provided and, wherever possible, indicate a webpage or provide a weblink.

General information

National focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Organization:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

Person to contact concerning the national report, if someone other than the national focal point

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Organization:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
E-mail:	

Global forest goal 1 and associated targets[a]

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Targets

1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide[b]

1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced

1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Questions

1. Since 2015,[c] what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 1.1 to 1.4?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

A. ☐ **Legislative and policy action**

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

[a] Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1 15.4 and 15.8, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.o, 7.d and 7.e.

[b] Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

[c] Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 1?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 1 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 1? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 1, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 1:

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets[4]

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Targets

2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated

2.2 Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased

2.4 The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased

2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

Questions

1. Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 2.1 to 2.5?

[4] Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.d-6.f, 6.h, 6.j, 6.p, 6.q, 6.t-6.v, 6.y and 7.k.

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

A. ☐ **Legislative and policy action**

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 2?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 2 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 2? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 2, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 2:

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets[e]

Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Targets

3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased

3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased

[e] Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.p, 6.q, 6.x, 7.f and 7.g.

3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

Questions

1. Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 3.1 to 3.3?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

A. ☐ **Legislative and policy action**

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 3?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 3 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 3? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 3, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 3:

Global forest goal 4 and associated targets[f]

Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

Targets

4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased

4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased

4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased

4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Questions

1. Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 4.1 to 4.5?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

A. ☐ Legislative and policy action

[f] Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1-17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16-17.19, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.h, 6.i, 6.m, 6.r, 6.s, 7.a-7.c, 7.l and 7.m-7.q.

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 4?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 4 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 4? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 4, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 4:

Supplementary questions

1. **Since 2015, has your Government been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources for the implementation of sustainable forest management?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please specify the sources:

☐ Public domestic funding

☐ Private domestic funding

☐ Public international funding, including official development assistance

☐ Private international funding

☐ Blended financing

Please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds:

2. **Is your country (the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) engaged in international cooperation to promote sustainable forest management?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please specify the entity or entities with which your country is cooperating:

- ☐ Governments
- ☐ Intergovernmental organizations/processes
- ☐ Private sector/philanthropy
- ☐ Non-governmental organizations
- ☐ Other

Types of cooperation:

- ☐ North-South
- ☐ North-South
- ☐ South-South
- ☐ Technical
- ☐ Financial
- ☐ Other

Areas of cooperation:

- ☐ Forests and climate change
- ☐ Forest biodiversity
- ☐ Valuation of the ecosystem services provided by forests
- ☐ Socioeconomic issues, including livelihoods
- ☐ Forest degradation and rehabilitation
- ☐ Scientific cooperation
- ☐ Forest monitoring/data collection
- ☐ Technology transfer and capacity development
- ☐ Production of timber or non-timber products
- ☐ Other (please specify):

Please provide up to three examples of international cooperation, and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

3. Since 2015, has your Government developed or implemented financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what is the time frame for these strategies?

☐ 2-5 years

☐ 5-10 years

☐ 10-20 years

☐ Other (please specify):

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets[g]

Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Targets

5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

[g] Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of Sustainable Development Goal targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.c, 15.9, 16.3, 16.5-16.7, 16.10 and 17.14, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.a, 6.c, 6.k, 6.l, 6.n, 6.w, 7.c and 7.h-7.j.

5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programmes are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

Questions

1. Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 5.1 to 5.4?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

A. ☐ **Legislative and policy action**

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 5?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 5 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories relating to goal 5? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 5, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 5:

Supplementary questions

1. **In your country, have forests been integrated into national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please specify:

- ☐ National sustainable development plans
- ☐ Poverty reduction strategies

2. **Since 2015, what steps has your Government taken to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?**

- ☐ New legislation
- ☐ Improved enforcement of existing legislation
- ☐ Export controls
- ☐ Import controls
- ☐ Bilateral agreements between exporting/importing countries
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other, e.g. public procurement policies and public-private partnerships. Please list below:

3. **What types of mechanism are in place to ensure cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies?**

4. **What types of mechanism are in place to involve stakeholders in forest/ sustainable forest management policy formulation, planning and implementation?**

5. **What types of mechanism are in place to involve the forest sector in cross-sectoral coordination among government agencies in charge of land use planning and development?**

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets[h]

Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

Targets

6.1 Forest-related programmes within the United Nations system are coherent and complementary and integrate the global forest goals and targets, where appropriate

6.2 Forest-related programmes across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests are coherent and complementary and together encompass the multiple contributions of forests and the forest sector to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Questions

1. Since 2015, what types of action have been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 6.3 to 6.5?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

[h] Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, Sustainable Development Goal target 17.14 and are supported by United Nations forest instrument actions 6.b, 6.c, 6.g, 6.m, 6.w, 7.r and 7.s.

A. ☐ **Legislative and policy action**

B. ☐ **Institutional action**

C. ☐ **Financial action**

D. ☐ **Technical and scientific action**

2. What other action is being taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in support of the achievement of goal 6?

3. How does the action listed above support the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

4. What are the main challenges in achieving goal 6 in your country?

5. Do you have any success stories related to goal 6? If so, please provide a brief description.

6. If your Government has announced a voluntary national contribution or contributions relating to goal 6, please provide brief information, including target dates and the progress made thus far.

7. Any additional comments on goal 6:

Supplementary questions

1. **What sets of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management are used in your country?**

- ☐ National
- ☐ Regional/international (e.g. International Tropical Timber Organization, Forest Europe, Montreal Process, Tarapoto Proposal on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainability of Amazonian Forests)
- ☐ Other

Please describe and, if possible, provide a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

For which of the following purposes are they used?

- ☐ To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management
- ☐ To monitor and assess forest conditions and management
- ☐ To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management
- ☐ To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
- ☐ To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):

2. **Since 2015, what action has been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country to communicate and promote a greater understanding and awareness of sustainable forest management?**

3. **What action has been taken by your Government to involve major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategic plan?**

Other questions

1. **Since 2015, has your country taken action to promote gender equality in the forest sector?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please indicate action taken with regard to the following:

- ☐ Women's effective access to control and use of forest resources
- ☐ Women's effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
- ☐ Women's effective participation and representation in forest management institutions
- ☐ Other

Please provide a brief description:

2. **What action has been taken (by the Government, the private sector, communities, civil society or others) in your country in observance of the International Day of Forests?**

- ☐ Cultural activities (e.g. art, music, film and theatre)
- ☐ Educational activities (e.g. workshops and symposiums)
- ☐ Media activities (e.g. newspapers, magazines, television and radio)
- ☐ Social media activities
- ☐ Other

Please provide two to three examples and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

Annex II

Preliminary list of potential indicators that could supplement information provided in national reports

Target number	*Relevant target indicator text*	*Reference*
1.1	**Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide**	
	1.1.1 Average annual forest area net change (thousands of hectares)	FAO/FRA OLI/global core set of indicators
1.2	**The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced**	
	1.2.1[a] Forest carbon stock (millions of tons)	FAO/FRA
	1.2.2 Average annual forest carbon stock change (millions of tons)	OLI/global core set of indicators
	1.2.3 Carbon storage in harvested wood products (tons)	UNFCCC
1.3	**By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally**	
	1.3.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management	SDG indicator 15.2.1
1.4	**The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide**	
	1.4.1 Area of forest disturbed by insects (thousands of hectares)	FRA
	1.4.2 Area of forest disturbed by diseases (thousands of hectares)	FRA
	1.4.3 Area of forest disturbed by severe weather events (thousands of hectares)	FRA
	1.4.5 Area of forest disturbed by burning (thousands of hectares)	FRA
	1.4.6 Area of forest disturbed by other sources (thousands of hectares)	FRA
2.1	**Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated**	
	2.1.1 Percentage change in the number of forest-dependent people or livelihoods of forest-dependent people	FAO/OLI/global core set of indicators (to be revised)

Target number	*Relevant target/indicator text*	*Reference*
2.2	**Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets**	
	2.2.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added	SDG indicator 9.3.1
	2.2.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit	SDG indicator 9.3.2
2.3	**The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased**	
	2.3.1 Availability of and access to forest food	To be developed
	2.3.2 Forest-related income providing access to food	To be developed
	2.3.3 Contribution of forest ecosystems to food production	To be developed
	2.3.4 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status	SDG indicator
2.4	**The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased**	
	2.4.1 Indicator to be developed: should measure the contribution of the forestry sector to the national economy (e.g. employment)	SDG indicator 2.3.1
2.5	**The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments**	
	2.5.1 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	SDG indicator 15.1.2
	2.5.2 Progress towards national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	SDG indicator 15.9.1
3.1	**The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased**	

Target number	*Relevant target indicator text*	*Reference*
	3.1.1 Forest area located within protected areas	FRA (the formulation of the indicator to be consistent with the terms and definitions used in the 2020 edition)
3.2	**The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased**	
	3.2.1 Forest area with a long-term forest management plan	FRA (the formulation of the indicator to be consistent with the terms and definitions used in the 2020 edition)
3.3	**The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased**	
	3.3.1 Production from sustainably managed forests	
4.1[b]	**Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation**	
	4.1.1 Financial resources from official development assistance for sustainable forest management	FAO/OLI
	4.1.2 Financial resources from all sources (except official development assistance) for the implementation of sustainable forest management	

Abbreviations: FAO, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; FRA, forest resources assessment; OLI, organization-led initiative; SDG, Sustainable Development Goal.

[a] Subindicators should make direct reference to the current reporting scope and level of the reporting framework under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and consider the difference between the countries listed in annex I to the Convention and those not so listed, as applicable.

[b] The sum of the amounts in proposed indicators 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 is equal to the total financing available.